Galilee; there you will see Him, as He said to you.” So they went out quickly and fled from the tomb, for they trembled and were amazed. And they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

Ephesians 2:14-18 (Epistle)
For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation, having abolished in His flesh the enmity, that is, the law of commandments contained in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man from the two, thus making peace, and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, whereby putting to death the enmity. And He came and preached peace to you who were afar off and to those who were near. For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father. Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom also you are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

Luke 18:18-27 (Gospel)
Now a certain ruler asked Him, saying, “Good Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?” So Jesus said to him, “Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God. You know the commandments: ‘Do not commit adultery,’ ‘Do not steal,’ ‘Do not bear false witness,’ ‘Honor your father and your mother.’” And he said, “All these things I have kept from my youth.” But when Jesus heard these things, He said to him, “You still lack one thing. Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me.” But when he heard this, he became very sorrowful, for he was very rich. And when Jesus saw that he became very sorrowful, He said, “How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God! For it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.” And those who heard it said, “Who then can be saved?” But He said, “The things which are impossible with men are possible with God.”

Holy Services and Activities

Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for He who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching. (Heb. 10:23-25)

Holy Mass: Tone 7 Troparion (Resurrection) By Your Countenance You destroyed death. To the thief You opened Paradise. For the Myrrhbearers You Changed weeping into joy. And You commanded Your disciples, O Christ God, to proclaim that You are risen,:// granting the world great mercy.

Tone 2 Troparion (Prophet Nahum) We celebrate the memory of Your Prophet Nahum, O Lord; through him we beseech You: “save our souls!”

Tone 7 Kontakion (Resurrection) The dominion of death can no longer hold mankind captive, for Christ descended, shattering and destroying its powers. Hell is bound, while the Prophets rejoice and cry: “The Savior has come to those in faith;:// enter, you faithful, into the Resurrection!”

Tone 4 Kontakion (Prophet Nahum) Illumined by the Spirit, your heart was a vessel of illustrious prophecy, seeing far-off things as though they were present. Therefore, we venerate you, glorious prophet Nahum.

Tone 7 Prokeimenon The Lord shall give strength to His people. The Lord shall bless His people with peace. (Ps 28:29-31)

v: Offer to the Lord, O you sons of God! Offer young rams to the Lord! (Ps 28:29-31)

Tone 3 Alleluya, Alleluya, Alleluya! v: It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to Your Name, O Most High. (Ps 91:92:1)

v: To declare Your mercy in the morning, and Your truth by night. (Ps 91:92:2)

Holy Scripture: Mark 16:9-20 (2nd Matins Gospel) Now when the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, that they might come and anoint Him. Very early in the morning, on the first day of the week, they came to the tomb when the sun had risen. And they said among themselves, “Who will roll away the stone from the door of the tomb for us?” But when they looked up, they saw that the stone had been rolled away -- for it was very large. And entering the tomb, they saw a young man clothed in a long white robe sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed. But he said to them, “Do not be alarmed. You see Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He is risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid Him. But go, tell His disciples -- and Peter ‘He is going before us into Galilee; there you will see Him, as He said to you.’” So they

Yours in Christ, <Your Name Here>
able, just mark your donation in the offering as “Alaska Trip” as you give on Sunday.

Education Team is continuing the present schedule of Atrium 1, Atrium 2, youth quest, Mom’s Group, Men’s fellowship. Please let me know if you are interested in any of these. I will not schedule it until I hear some feed back from parents and families involved. Atrium 1 would still continue to be offered on Sunday mornings as well.

Activities—there will be a number of events for youth and families throughout the year, including: Vertical Jump in Brie—last week 15+ attended Learning Prophora Making (Dec. 14th 11am-2pm) Ray’s Bike Park (TBA), Ski Trip (TBA), Summer Camp out, etc.

Hospitality Team will meet on Wed. Dec 11th at 12noon - The team will be forming recommendations for Parish council for the upcoming year’s food events, planning Coffee hour, and preparing our greeting protocol for services and other events.

Outreach Team will meet this month on Mon. Dec 2nd at 7pm in parish rectory office to plan our year’s outreach events. The goal of the OT is to make people in our community familiar with the Orthodox Faith. Including the blessing of French Creek (Tues. Jan 7th), and Lake Erie (Jan. 25th). More events will be announced in the coming weeks. This team sponsored an orthodox bible study at the brewery in Meadville and recently attended a music festival and had a booth to attract questions about Orthodoxy.

Parish Council welcomes new elected members. There will be a prayer of blessing and commissioning on Sun. Jan 8th 2020 for all council members. Council is also seeking members of the parish to be on a planning team for the upcoming 100th year anniversary to be held in 2021. Council is also seeking members of the Altar Guild. If you are interested in being in any of the teams of the parish please let parish council Pres. Nathan or Fr. Daniel know.

Choir—The parish is in the process of updating our liturgical books to reflect the liturgical usage of the day. There will be some different phrases and words used throughout the services. “Thee and thou” have been changed to “you and your”, and “I” to “we”. For example, will be gradually pronouncing “Amin” instead of “Amen” (A Russian practice, and correct Greek pronunciation), because this is a more proper pronunciation of the original liturgical language. The Lord’s Prayer will be left alone for now as we presently say the prayer, with Thee and thou’s included. Remember we have become conditioned by our western influence, and we must defend and keep the tradition passed on from the past. “We believe in one God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.” There is a classic Orthodox prayer set for the morning: “Thine own, of Thine own, from Thine own, that all is sent down from Thee. Direct my thoughts and feelings to a good direction. Let me not be wronged, nor be a hindrance to anyone. That all is well with me, neither embarrassing nor saddening anyone. If you are well, so is the rest of the world.” (An Orthodox prayer). This translation, it will be beneficial for us all. The Choir will also be adding new music, and updating all our services over the next few years. The Choir is encouraging youth and families to participate in the Matins and Great Vespers. We are streaming prayers in English and Slav. Great Vespers, with their voices and serving in the altar. Having more understandable language and more opportunities to serve and pray will encourage our young people to participate more fully.

Ladies Altar Society will be meeting this month (TBA). They continue to make pirogues and are meeting for prayer and social events monthly. Please see Tanya for more information.

Our St. Nicholas Bake Sale will be held on Sat. Dec. 7th from 10-1pm. There will be an Akathist to St. Ambrose of Milan at 9am. Please bring your fresh baked goods and Christmas rummage items to the parish hall that morning. See Lisa for more information.

A Prophora Making Workshop will be held for youth and families (anyone is invited) on Sat. Dec. 14th from 11-2pm. The workshop will include the learning of the recipe, the prayers and movements for preparing and making holy bread for Divine Liturgy and Great Vespers.

Plan to attend Holy Supper if you have not in years past this is a wonderful family event that reminds us of our history and orthodox heritage from the old country of holy Rus, and all the Nativity scriptures are read, the different foods served teach us about our holy faith and the Incarnation of God.

Holy Words—Thanksgiving as Mystical Communion...